

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in this application. Added text is indicated by underlining, and deleted text is indicated by ~~striketthrough~~. Changes are identified by a vertical bar at the left edge of text.

Listing of Claims:

1 1. (currently amended) A computer system comprising a first network, a
2 first computer connected to the first network, a second network connected to the first network,
3 and a second computer and a third computer connected to the second network, the first computer
4 comprising:
5 a communication interface for connecting the first computer to the first network;
6 a disk storage device for storing data;
7 a disk interface for communicating data with the disk storage device;
8 a CPU for controlling the first computer; and
9 a memory for storing data and program code for operating the CPU,
10 wherein the program code includes:
11 a module for recording situations of access to a file stored in the disk
12 storage device from the third computer, the module being executed by the CPU at
13 predetermined intervals, and
14 wherein the program code is executed depending on the access situation, the
15 program code further including:
16 a module for searching the second network connected to the third
17 computer;
18 a module for searching a candidate for migration for the second network;
19 a module for designating the file as the candidate for migration to the
20 second computer;
21 a module for transmitting a migrator acceptor search packet to the second
22 computer for inquiring whether or not the second computer can accept the file;

23 a module for receiving a reply packet from the second computer as a
24 response to the migrator acceptor search packet;
25 a module for transmitting an advertisement packet to the third computer
26 either after or before the file is transferred to the second computer, the advertisement
27 packet indicating that the file is transferred to the second computer;
28 a module for transferring the file to the second computer;
29 a module for storing information indicative of whether the file has been
30 transferred to the second computer or the file exists in the first computer;
31 a module for storing a path name for the second computer when the file
32 has been transferred to the second computer; and
33 a module for allowing the third computer to access the file via the first
34 computer based on the information and the path name when the first computer receives
35 an access request for the file after the file has been transferred to the second computer;
36 and
37 a module for receiving a return request packet from the second computer
38 and issuing a read request in response, for returning the file to the first computer; and
39 a module for receiving and storing the file in the first computer, when the
40 file is returned from the second computer.

1 2. (previously presented) The computer system according to claim 1,
2 wherein:

3 the memory stores a path of the file accessed by the third computer
4 associating the path with information on the access situations of the third computer, and
5 the program code further includes a module for designating the file
6 corresponding to the access situation information as the candidate for migration when the
7 information satisfies a predetermined condition.

1 3. (canceled).

1 4. (currently amended) The computer system according to claim 2, wherein
2 the third computer comprises a memory for storing data and program code, and
3 the program code in the memory of the third computer includes a module for
4 receiving the advertisement packet and a module for making access to the second computer for
5 the file according to the advertisement packet.

1 5. (previously presented) The computer system according to claim 1,
2 wherein:
3 the first network is further connected to a third network, and
4 the program code further includes a module for transmitting the migrator acceptor
5 search packet to the third network when no computer suitable for accepting the file is found in
6 the second network.

6-8. (canceled)

1 9. (currently amended) A first computer which is connected to a first
2 network capable of communicating with a second network including a second computer and a
3 third computer and which has a file accessed by the third computer, comprising:
4 a communication interface for connecting the first computer to the first network;
5 a CPU for controlling the first computer;
6 a disk storage device for storing data;
7 a disk interface for communicating data with the disk storage device; and
8 a memory for storing data and program code for operating the CPU,
9 wherein the program code includes:
10 a module for recording situations of access to a file stored in the disk
11 storage device from the third computer, and
12 wherein the program code is executed depending on the access situation, the
13 program code further including:

14 a module for searching the second network connected to the third
15 computer;
16 a module for searching a candidate for migration for the second network;
17 a module for designating the file as the candidate for migration to the
18 second computer;
19 a module for transmitting a migrator acceptor search packet to the second
20 computer for inquiring whether or not the second computer can accept the file;
21 a module for receiving a reply packet from the second computer as a
22 response to the migration admittance packet;
23 a module for transmitting an advertisement packet to the third computer
24 either after or before the file is transferred to the second computer, the advertisement
25 packet indicating that the file is transferred to the second computer;
26 a module for transferring the file to the second computer
27 a module for storing information indicative of whether the file has been
28 transferred to the second computer or the file exists in the first computer;
29 a module for storing a path name for the second computer when the file
30 has been transferred to the second computer;
31 a module for allowing the third computer to access the file via the first
32 computer based on the information and the path name when the first computer receives
33 an access request for the file after the file has been transferred to the second computer;
34 and
35 a module for receiving a return request packet from the second computer
36 and issuing a read request in response, for returning the file to the first computer; and
37 a module for receiving and storing the file in the first computer, when the
38 file is returned from the second computer.

1 10. (canceled)

1 11. (canceled).

1 12. (currently amended) A program stored in a memory of a first computer
2 which is connected to a first network capable of communicating with a second network including
3 a second computer and a third computer and which has a file accessed by the third computer,
4 comprising:
5 a first subroutine and a second subroutine,
6 wherein the first subroutine includes a module for recording situations of access
7 to the file of the first computer from the third computer, and
8 wherein the second subroutine is executed depending on the access situation, the
9 second subroutine including:
10 a module for searching the second network connected to the third
11 computer;
12 a module for searching a candidate for migration for the second network;
13 a module for designating the file as the candidate for migration to the
14 second computer;
15 a module for transmitting a migrator acceptor search packet to the second
16 computer for inquiring whether or not the second computer can accept the file;
17 a module for receiving a migration admittance packet from the second
18 computer as a response to the migration admittance packet;
19 a module for transmitting an advertisement packet to the third computer
20 either after or before the file is transferred to the second computer, the advertisement
21 packet indicating that the file is transferred to the second computer;
22 a module for transferring the file to the second computer;
23 a module for storing information indicative of whether the file has been
24 transferred to the second computer or the file exists in the first computer;
25 a module for storing a path name for the second computer when the file
26 has been transferred to the second computer;
27 a module for allowing the third computer to access the file via the first
28 computer based on the information and the path name when the first computer receives

29 an access request for the file after the file has been transferred to the second computer;
30 and
31 a module for receiving a return request packet from the second computer
32 and issuing a read request in response, for returning the file to the first computer; and
33 a module for receiving and storing the file in the first computer, when the
34 file is returned from the second computer.

1 13. (canceled)

1 14. (previously presented) The computer system according to claim 1,
2 wherein the program code further includes a module for transferring a directory belonging to the
3 file to the second computer.

1 15. (previously presented) The computer system according to claim 1,
2 wherein the program code further includes a module for transmitting the path name when the
3 first computer receives an access request for the file.

1 16. (previously presented) The computer system according to claim 1,
2 wherein the file is stored into the second computer when the file is transferred from the first
3 computer to the second computer.

1 17. (previously presented) The computer system according to claim 1,
2 wherein the file is returned from the second computer to the first computer depending on another
3 access situation.

1 18. (previously presented) The computer system according to claim 17,
2 wherein the program code further includes a module for deleting the path name when the file is
3 returned from the second computer to the first computer.

1 19. (previously presented) The computer system according to claim 1,
2 wherein the module for transferring the file to the second computer is performed if the response
3 indicates that the second computer accepts the file and the second computer has a capacity for
4 storing the file.

1 20. (previously presented) The computer system according to claim 1,
2 wherein the first computer transfers the file to the second computer, according to the access
3 request for the file or according to reduction of an amount of the access packet, after the
4 advertisement packet is sent.

1 21. (new) A method of operating a computer system server comprising a first
2 computer connected to a first network through a communication interface, such that a second
3 network is connected to the first network and such that second and third computers are connected
4 to the second network, the method comprising:

5 recording situations of access from the third computer to a file stored in a disk
6 storage device that communicates with the first computer through a disk interface, the recording
7 of situations of access being executed at predetermined intervals depending on the access
8 situation;

9 searching the second network connected to the third computer;
10 searching a candidate for migration for the second network;
11 designating the file as the candidate for migration to the second computer;
12 transmitting a migrator acceptor search packet to the second computer for
13 inquiring whether or not the second computer can accept the file;

14 receiving a reply packet from the second computer as a response to the migrator
15 acceptor search packet;

16 transmitting an advertisement packet to the third computer either after or before
17 the file is transferred to the second computer, the advertisement packet indicating that the file is
18 transferred to the second computer;

19 transferring the file to the second computer;

20 storing information indicative of whether the file has been transferred to the
21 second computer or the file exists in the first computer;
22 storing a path name for the second computer when the file has been transferred to
23 the second computer; and
24 allowing the third computer to access the file via the first computer based on the
25 information and the path name when the first computer receives an access request for the file
26 after the file has been transferred to the second computer;
27 receiving a return request packet from the second computer and issuing a read
28 request in response, for returning the file to the first computer; and
29 receiving and storing the file in the first computer, when the file is returned to the
30 first computer from the second computer.

1 22. (new) The method according to claim 21, further including:
2 transferring a directory belonging to the file to the second computer.

1 23. (new) The method according to claim 21, further including:
2 transmitting the path name when the first computer receives an access request for
3 the file.

1 24. (new) The method according to claim 21, further including:
2 storing the file into the second computer when the file is transferred from the first
3 computer to the second computer.